

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FOR EUR/RPM

FROM USDEL CSCE

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: CSCE EEC NATO UK
SUBJ: UK DRAFT PAPER IN NATO ON NEW PROPOSALS

REF: (A) NATO 4804, (B) NATO 5139

1. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO CONSIDER FOLLOWING IN CONNEC-
TION WITH PREPARATION OF COMMENTS ON UK DRAFT PAPER ON NEW
PROPOSALS REF A.

2. DRAFT NEW PROPOSAL NUMBER 4 NOW READS "TO ALLEVIATE
THE COST OF VISITS BY CITIZENS OF OTHER PARTICIPATING
STATES ON THE BASIS OF FAMILY TIES BY REDUCING THE
MINIMUM CURRENCY EXCHANGE REQUIREMENTS FOR ADVANCE HOTEL
RESERVATIONS". WE UNDERSTAND THAT SOME EAST BLOC
COUNTRIES OFTEN REQUIRE PURCHASE OF HOTEL PACKAGE IN CONNECTION
WITH VISA, AND MINIMUM CURRENCY EXCHANGE IS FREQUENTLY
JUSTIFIED AS REPRESENTING AMOUNT THAT WILL BE REQUIRED FOR
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BASIC EXPENSES SUCH AS LODGING. THIS EXCHANGE REQUIREMENT,
HOWEVER, IS NOT NORMALLY RESTRICTED TO HOTEL COSTS. MAIN
CATEGORY OF PERSON WE WOULD BE ATTEMPTING TO HELP BY
REDUCING EXCHANGE REQUIREMENT IS INDIVIDUAL WHO BECAUSE
OF FAMILY CONNECTIONS INTENDS TO STAY IN PRIVATE HOME,
WILL SPEND NOTHING AT ALL ON HOTEL BUT IS STILL
REQUIRED TO PURCHASE NON-CONVERTIBLE LOCAL CURRENCY FOR EACH DAY

IN COUNTRY. ADDITION OF PHRASE "FOR ADVANCE HOTEL RESERVATIONS", THEREFORE, COULD VITIATE EFFECT OF NEW PROPOSAL BY LEAVING EAST BLOC COUNTRIES FREE TO CONTINUE TO IMPOSE IDENTICAL HIGH MINIMUM CURRENCY EXCHANGE REQUIREMENTS ON ALL VISITORS PROVIDED THOSE REQUIREMENTS WERE NOT JUSTIFIED IN TERMS OF HOTEL RESERVATIONS.

3. DEPARTMENT MIGHT WISH TO SUGGEST THAT TO AVOID CONFUSION ALLIES CONSIDER DROPPING PHRASE "FOR ADVANCE HOTEL RESERVATIONS". IF ALLIES FEEL THAT SOME FURTHER LANGUAGE IS REQUIRED TO ILLUSTRATE TYPE OF CASE WE HAVE IN MIND, CONSIDERATION MIGHT BE GIVEN TO REVISION ALONG FOLLOWING LINES: "TO ALLEVIATE THE COST OF VISITS BY CITIZENS OF PARTICIPATING STATES BY REDUCING MINIMUM CURRENCY EXCHANGE REQUIREMENTS FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO INTEND TO RESIDE IN PRIVATE HOMES". SHERER

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